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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
JAN 21 2004 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1616
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Attorney Docket No. 27656/37082

AF
1616

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frey, <i>et al.</i>) I hereby certify that this paper is being
) deposited with the United States Postal
Application No.: 09/762,871) Service as First Class mail, postage prepaid,
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Filed: February 14, 2001) Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on
For: Conjugates of DNA Interacting)
Groups with Steroid Hormones for Use as) January 13, 2004
Nucleic Acid Transfection Agents)
)
Group Art Unit: 1616)
)
Examiner: B. Badio, Ph.D.) William K. Merkel, Ph.D.
)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to a final Office Action mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 13, 2003, in which various pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement (claims 1, 6-7, 9-11, 17 and 30-33), and under § 112, second paragraph (claims 1, 6-7, 9-11, 17 and 30-33). Claim 14 was subject to objection for depending from a rejected base claim.

In view of the proposed amendments and remarks presented below, which eliminate, or at least reduce, the issues for appeal, Applicants request that the Examiner exercise her discretion and enter the amendment, which should result in withdrawal of the rejections and objection. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Amendments to the Specification: None.

Amendments to the Claims are found in the listing of claims beginning on page 2.

Amendment to the Drawings: None.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.